

as the four forms of *Puffinus* involved in these remarks,* may suit the peculiar views of those who would, for some reason best known to themselves, ignore distinctions which Nature has made; but will Dr. Cooper please explain in what matter this method of subversion of facts," or, as he expresses it, "similar combinations of species," would be "advantageous to the study of the water-birds,"—or any other birds, "for that matter?—ROBERT RIDGWAY.

Beckham's Birds of Nelson County, Kentucky.—Mr. Beckham's 'List'† "is based almost entirely" upon his former 'List of the Birds of Bardstowntown, Nelson County, Ky.,' published in July, 1883, and noticed in the 'Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club' for October, 1883 (Vol. VIII, pp. 227, 228). Four species only are now added, raising the total number to 171. The present list is essentially a reprint of the earlier one, with some revision of the text, and many changes in the nomenclature. It is quite sumptuously printed, and, the introduction states, was prepared "to accompany Mr. Linny's report on the geology of Nelson County." It is without date, and there is no clue given in the 'separates' to its exact place of publication.—J. A. A.

Beckham on the plumage of *Regulus calendula*.‡—Respecting the presence or absence of the brightly colored crown-patch in different individuals of this species, Mr. Beckham, after an examination of much material, reaches the following conclusions: "(1) that the female does not have this brightly-colored crown, and (2) that some young autumnal males (very likely a large majority of them) do possess this ornament."—J. A. A.

Lawrence on New Species of Birds from Yucatan.—Mr. Gaumer's explorations in Yucatan continue to supply Mr. Lawrence with ornithological material still yielding novelties. In the first§ of the two papers now noticed a new Pigeon is described (*Engyptila vinaceifulva*) from Temax, Yucatan. It is very unlike any other species of the genus, and its light tints give at first sight a suggestion of partial albinism. There are also in this paper further notes on *Engyptila fulviventris* (originally described as *Leptoptila fulviventris*), and on *Chætura gaumeri*.

* The only one in the least doubtful being *P. stricklandi*, which by good authority is considered to be the same species as *P. griseus*—a view of its relationships which, it may perhaps be needless to say, I have reasons for not accepting.

† List of the Birds of Nelson County. By Charles Wickliffe Beckham. 4to., pp. 58. Kentucky Geological Survey. No date. [Sept. 1885.]

‡ Remarks on the Plumage of *Regulus calendula*. By Charles Wickliffe Beckham, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. VIII, No. 40, pp. 625-628, Dec. 7, 1885.

§ Description of a New Species of Bird of the Genus *Engyptila*, with Notes on two Yucatan Birds. By George N. Lawrence. Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci., Vol. IV, No. 8, 271-273.